



# “THE LINC”

*Your connection to the news, decisions, and services from City Hall.*

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## 3rd Friday Downtown Dates:

- ◆ June 17th
- ◆ July 15th
- ◆ August 19th
- ◆ September 16th

## FIRST 3RD FRIDAY EVENT BRINGS CROWDS DOWNTOWN

Even with cool and ominous weather looming, hundreds gathered throughout downtown Lincoln for the first Third Friday event. Kids and adults alike played the games and took turn on the inflatable activities.

Many downtown businesses extended their regular hours to accommodate the people who wish to peruse their storefronts in the evenings. Additionally, a vendor market was set up to encourage locals to display their wares and home-grown businesses.

Alderman Tracy Welch, who helped serve on the planning committee for the event said, “We were hoping that many of our residents and neighboring communities would take notice of the efforts being made. We could not be happier with the turnout. We are so appreciative that businesses downtown stayed open, and that there was such positive feedback about the festivities.”

The May event was the first in a series of downtown events that will continue through the summer. Each

month will have a different theme. Be sure to make plans to attend in June as the theme revolves around “Picnic in the Park” that will include a movie shown downtown on the square!



## CITY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

The mosquito could be considered one of the most dangerous creatures on earth. Mosquitoes and the diseases they spread have been responsible for killing more people than all the wars in history. One of the diseases that has affected the United States recently is the West Nile virus, and now there is great concern about the Zika virus showing up in our country.

The first step in controlling mosquitos is source reduction or eliminating places for them to grow and develop. This can be done by eliminating places where water gathers or stands including poorly

maintained swimming pools, abandoned tires, bird baths, buckets or other debris in which water accumulates. We all have an obligation to make sure our properties are free of mosquito-breeding sites.

The Lincoln Street Department is responsible for mosquito control in the city, and they use three different methods to do so.

**Source reduction:** Elimination of environmental conditions that promote mosquito reproduction.

**Larviciding:** Applying pesticides to water

where mosquito's larvae develop.

**Adulticiding:** The application of pesticides droplets by fogging to control adult mosquitos.

Larviciding is a treatment that selectively targets mosquito larvae. Adulticiding is a broad spectrum application which can kill beneficial insects as well.

Street department staff are licensed through the Illinois Department of Agriculture to conduct operations and attend annual training seminars.

## THREE SEWERS: SANITARY, STORM, & COMBINED

The City of Lincoln has three different types of underground piping that convey sewage and storm water runoff to the treatment facility or other dedicated area.

The first type of sewer in the City of Lincoln is the traditional sanitary sewer line. These lines are dedicated to handling sewage from interior plumbing fixtures, such as toilets, bathtubs, sinks, washing machines, etc. They are not, however, designed or constructed to take care of sump pumps or gutters/ roof drains. When these additional sources of flow are connected to sanitary sewer lines, the potential for sewer backups into residences will increase greatly. The surge of water that comes from large rain events overloads the piping and can back up into a

basement or other low areas in a house.

Another type of piping that the City of Lincoln owns and maintains are the Storm Sewers. These lines are specially designed to allow for rain water to be collected and transported to a nearby waterway, creek, pond, or in some cases, the sewage treatment plant. For storm sewers to properly work, they need to be clean and free of debris. Various things can plug or restrict flow. Any trash or yard waste that makes its way onto the City Street can eventually be washed into the storm sewers. Please take care not to direct any yard waste onto the City Streets.

The final, and most complicated, type of sewers the City has is the Combined

Sewer System. This piping network was designed to collect both sanitary and storm water. Combined Sewers are no longer allowed to be constructed. They were put in years ago during a time when regulation was far less than it is today regarding water quality. Combined sewers, in the dry summer months, can produce particularly bad odors from drains and grates. If you do encounter a catch basin or drain that smells, please contact the City of Lincoln Sewer Department so that we may address it by cleaning or flushing the affected sewer line. Please call us at 217-732-4030. We are available, Monday through Friday, 7am to 3pm.

*"If you do encounter a catch basin or drain that smells, please contact the City of Lincoln Sewer Department so that we may address it (217) 732-4030."*

## CITY OF LINCOLN PROFILE

Over the course of the next editions of "The Linc," we will profile city staff so that you can better know the people serving you and your community.

**Name:** Clay Johnson

**Position:** City Administrator

**Tenure with the City of Lincoln:** I came to the City of Lincoln in October 2014. I have been in local government since 2010, previously serving as the Assistant Town Manager of Munster, Indiana.

**Family Life:** I got married just about a year ago to my wife, Stephanie, and we just got our first dog, a Corgi named Winston.

**What do you do?** My role is to help coordinate and manage the operations of the City. I try to ensure that the various departments of the City are performing well and are providing a high level of service to our residents. Ultimately, I try to carry out the policies and directions set by the City Council.

**What's your favorite part of the job?** I got into local government to make a difference, to improve the community where I live and work. It's a wonderful feeling whenever you are able to help a resident with their problem or watch a project come move from planning to completion.

**How can people get in touch with you?** I keep an open door policy. If there is a question, feel free to stop by and ask. I am also available through email at [cjohnson@lincolnil.gov](mailto:cjohnson@lincolnil.gov) or by telephone at (217) 732-2122.



**Mayor Marty's Office  
Hours at City Hall:**

**Tuesdays: 2-4PM  
Thursdays: 2-4PM**

Have a question of the mayor, or just want to stop by and say, "Hello!"? Mayor Marty Neitzel has established office hours from 2-4PM every Tuesday and Thursday where she is available for walk-ins or appointments. You're welcome to stop by!